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Leaves of Healing



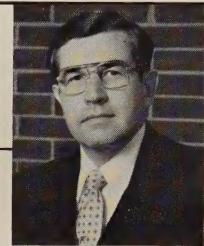
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God's Pattern For The Church

by General Overseer Roger W. Ottersen



I am sure that nearly everyone, at one time or another, has the experience of trying to put together something that seems so simple, yet becomes so complex. I recall a certain Christmas Eve some years ago when our children were much younger. We had purchased a little toy for one of them with the intention of putting it together on Christmas Eve after the children had gone to bed. That day I had been very busy at the church preparing for the Christmas Eve Service and I distinctly remember saying to my wife, "After we get home from the Service, it won't take very long to put it together. The children will be in bed and there will be plenty of time. It will all work out fine." Well, after three or four hours of fruitlessly trying to put that little toy together, my wife turned to me and asked, "Have you thought of reading the directions?"

From this type of experience, we often hear the wisecrack, "When all else fails, read the directions." Most appliances, toys, games, etc., come with a pamphlet or booklet of directions, and it is important that these be read, both for safety and for getting the most out of the purchased item. Reading the directions or instructions is never more important than when applied to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hundreds, even thousands of books have been written covering the many philosophies and ideas of men concern-

ing every aspect of church life: organization, management, leadership, finances, outreach, church architecture, etc. As helpful as many of these books are, they can never take the place of the Scriptures as our primary source of information. In the Bible we have God's pattern for the church, and if our church is to have a solid foundation, it must be built upon Christ and the principles found in His Word.

The Bible gives to us the way of salvation—through faith in Jesus Christ and His death on the cross for our sins. It gives to us the way of sanctification—through the Holy Spirit as we yield to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The Word of God also challenges us to Christian service—to be witnesses for Christ throughout the world.

As a boy I grew up in a church-related home, but where personal faith in Jesus Christ was not known. I never saw a Christian periodical. We did not have a family altar nor was I encouraged to read the Bible. Across the street from my home was a small Christian Catholic Church fellowship. The people there were friendly and I began attending. Not long afterward, while I was still in Junior High School, I was introduced personally to Jesus Christ and received Him as my Savior and Lord.

Soon after I became a Christian, Overseer Michael J. Minter gave me a

copy of the book that he had printed and bound called **The Beliefs and Teachings of the Christian Catholic Church**. This book led me to the study of God's Word and for the first time I began to learn something of The Lord's Supper, the Second Coming of Christ, the Rapture, etc. I am thankful that our church has from its inception stood on the authority of the Word of God and has as its first Basis of Fellowship "That we recognize the infallible inspiration and sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures as the rule of faith and practice."

There are three basic Scripture passages which give to us God's pattern for the church: Romans 12; I Corinthians 13 and 14; and Ephesians 4. First, let us consider the meaning of the word, "church." The Greek word, "ecclesia," simply means, "a called out people." We have been called out of darkness into the light of God's Word; out of the world and worldliness into the family of faith; from a life of self-will to a life of loving obedience to Christ.

In considering God's pattern for the church, we shall consider it under four headings: (1) Headship; (2) Leadership; (3) Fellowship; and (4) Attainment.

Headship:

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Wherefore, He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

Ephesians 4:7,8

God's Word leaves no doubt as to who is the head of the church. It is Jesus Christ. "He led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men." He is the Head of the church, and there can be only one head. This is not my church and it is not your church. It is His church. No one, either in pulpit or pew has the authority or right to usurp Christ's authority as Head of the church. Whether in the area of evangelism (reaching out with the message of the Gospel) or with edification (the building up of the body of believers), He still is the Authority of the church. This authority is carried to the church through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. His Headship calls for submission on our part, but I am afraid that far too often we pay Him only lip service rather than in practice, making Him the head of our lives, our homes and our church.

Leadership: Ephesians 4:11 and 12 tells us that He (Jesus) gave... What did He give? He gave gifts. What were the gifts: "And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." That statement thrills me. The older we get in our Christian walk with the Lord, the more we discover that God's best gifts are not things, but people.

Apostles are specially chosen and gifted messengers of the Gospel under the authority of the King of kings. Prophets are also gifted proclaimers of the truth of God. Evangelists are those especially gifted in making the Gospel plain and simple and in convincing men to respond in faith to Jesus Christ. Pastors and teachers are especially gifted in nurturing a fellowship of believers on a somewhat permanent basis.

God gives a variety of gifts to meet the variety of needs within a local church as well as to reach out to the unchurched. There are those who seem to have very important gifts and others who seem to have less important gifts, but all are needed for the good of the whole body.

In our church fellowship here we have people working together using a wide variety of gifts. Some are gifted

musically, some are gifted in working with youth, others with children, some are gifted in business management and finance, some have the gift of helps, working behind the scenes in many projects, others are gifted in a more public ministry as pastors and teachers. We are grateful for every person using their special gift to the glory of God.

Spiritual gifts are similar in many ways to natural talents and both have their place in the church. However, to be a blessing to the church and to bring glory to God, the entire person with whatever gift or talent he may have must be in submission to God and living in dependence upon the Holy Spirit for power in service. We are reminded that Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church became the chief Servant of the Church, so any leader, following in His Name, must also have a servant spirit. God has not called us to lord it over others, but to serve. This goes for your General Overseer or any others throughout the fellowship. I believe it was Bill Gothard who defined a servant as "one who becomes excited about making someone else successful." Jesus was not only the Chief Shepherd of the sheep, but He was also the Lamb for the sacrifice for sins.

Church leaders are not to be little dictators, and it is tragic when some do set themselves up as such. Peter tells leaders:

"Shepherd the flock among you, not under compulsion but voluntarily according to the will of God and not for sordid gain."

1st Peter 5:2

On the other hand, members of the congregation are expected to: *"Obey your leaders and submit to them for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief for this would be unprofitable for you."*

Hebrews 13:17

The Apostle Paul also spoke of the duties of the congregation to their leaders in several of his epistles. For instance, in 1st Thessalonians 5:12 he wrote:

"Appreciate those who labor among you and have charge of you that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. And we urge you brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak and be patient with all men."

I could tell you many stories of visiting pastors in the greater Chicago area and

finding them ready to give up pastoring because of members with a critical spirit or a lack of appreciation for the pastor. I have also met with discouraged congregations because their pastor "was lording it over the flock." God grant that we all may work together in a spirit of harmony, using the gifts He has given us in the Spirit of Christ—to the glory of God and the building up of the body of Christ.

Fellowship: A good New Testament definition of "fellowship" is "joint participation in things held in common." In Ephesians 4:12 the purpose of God's gifts to the Church simply stated: "for the equipping of the saints." Why do the saints need to be equipped? What do they need special equipment for? "For the work of service, and for the building up of the body of Christ. God's purpose for the Church was not for the members to be a group of spectators watching a few leaders "play the game." God is looking for people who will work together under the headship of Christ and under the local leadership whom God has appointed and gifted for the total building up of each member in the body of Christ.

One area of fellowship in the church is the fellowship of prayer. No matter what the individual gift of responsibility in the church may be, all should be bathed in prayer, and all should be supported by the prayers of others.

Fellowship involves participation "with one another." I think it is highly significant that the phrase "one another" occurs fifty times in the epistles alone. Working and praying with one another is fellowship—sweet fellowship.

Attainment: The ultimate purpose of Christ's gifts to the Church is given in the thirteenth verse of Ephesians four:

"Til we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect (spiritually mature) man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

The Apostle Paul, in speaking of "the faith" has reference to that body of doctrine or truth as revealed by God and contained in the Holy Scriptures. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastors and teachers have the responsibility of proclaiming and teaching that body of truth which has been given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit—God's Word—and not their own ideas or doctrines, in order that believers may be brought into that "unity of faith."

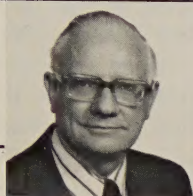
Being brought into the unity of the faith also means that simultaneously, we shall be brought into the knowledge of the Son of God, for that is what the faith is all about. This knowledge is more than just an intellectual knowledge, for the end result is spiritual maturity—“unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” Christ-likeness is God’s goal for the believer.

Though it is never fully accomplished in this life, it is still His goal and for which “all things work together for good.”

Christ loved the Church “and gave Himself for it,” and the Holy Spirit was given, and the Bible was given, and spiritual gifts were given—all that He might present the Church to Himself “a glorious Church, not having spot or

wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” Ephesians 5:27

God’s pattern is clear, but are we following that pattern in our own lives? Have we made God’s goal our goal? Let us all really strive for the unity of the faith and for the building up of the body of Christ in that faith.



When Your Heart Is Breaking

by Rev. Hugh Mainord

All of us, sooner or later, have had, or will have, deep sorrow and grief. Sometimes we feel as if our heart will break. This problem of sorrow began when sin entered the world (Gen.3:16). Because the Son of God became a man He also was described as a “man of sorrows and acquainted with grief” (Isa. 53:3). It was out of my own heart-breaking experiences that I determined to prepare a message on sorrow. In preparing the message I discovered that there are several Greek words in the New Testament which express this grief and sorrow. These are:

1. **lupeo, lupe:** pain, grief, sorrow;
2. **odunao, odune:** sever pain, consuming grief, distress;
3. **perilupos:** afflicted beyond measure, deeply grieved (intensive form of #1).

In this sermon we will analyze the causes of sorrow as revealed in the New Testament. The number beside each illustration will indicate which of the above Greek words is used there.

First of all, we shall consider the sorrow of unbelievers. One of their sorrows (and of believers too very often) is the result of the love of money. I Timothy 6:10 reads: “For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil, while some have coveted after, they have wandered away from **the faith**, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” (2). When anyone has as his main goal in life that of acquiring money so that money becomes in reality his god, he sets himself up for “many sorrows.” Note that the number (2) after the verse indicates that this is one of the more intensive words. As a result of making money their most prized possession they depart from “**the faith**”, an expression

referring to Christian doctrines. They wander away from the teachings of God. Their sorrow may come from their conscience, from disillusionment (they found money did not satisfy) or from spiritual unrest. But it does come to those who “love money.”

Another sorrow of an unbeliever was that of King Herod, who made a rash promise. He had been so “turned on” by the dance of the daughter of Herodias that he had sworn to her “Whatever you ask of me, I will give it to you, up to half my kingdom.” (Mark 6:23). When she asked for the head of John the Baptist on a platter, he knew he had been too rash in his promise. “And although the king was very sorry, yet because of his oaths, and because of his dinner guests, he was unwilling to refuse her.” (Mark 6:26) (3). Despite the intensity of his sorrow, he would not embarrass himself in front of his guests by backing down on his public promise. He had great sorrow, but he never changed his mind. So John the Baptist was decapitated that very hour.

Another sorrow of an unbeliever was that of the “Rich Young Ruler.” He wanted to obtain eternal life, but money was his real god. Money was more important to him than the eternal life Jesus offered. So he turned his back and walked away. “But when he had heard these things, he became very sad; for he was extremely rich.” (Mark 10:23) (3). He too had extreme sorrow, but it did not change him. How distressing it is to see people who have **great sorrow**, but yet continue to turn their backs on God!

In our next example, we learn that sorrow **may** lead to repentance. We are thankful that the sorrow we have may, and often does, turn a life around for good. We see this in II Corinthians

7:9-11. Verse 10 reads: “For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation.” (1). It does not always require a great sorrow (as here) but still God does use sorrow to make us feel our need for Him and to turn us to Him for salvation. Therefore, I am hopeful that as sorrow comes into lives, this could be God’s way of bringing these breaking hearts to Himself.

I recall so vividly an incident in another state where I was pastoring. In my visitation I had learned that a certain couple were having marital problems since the wife had been seen by a neighbor running out of her house and hiding from her husband. I went to their home and, finding no one at home, left a note inviting them to call on me if I could help. Two weeks later, after I had forgotten the incident, the husband called and requested my visit. When I arrived, I found a broken-hearted man whose wife had taken the children and left him and an almost empty house. I listened to his story for some two hours and then I presented Christ to him as the only Savior and the only answer to his marital problems. He readily accepted Christ that day because Christ had awakened him to his need through sorrow. Then we made a visit to his wife. Unfortunately I lost track of him. Almost three weeks later I was shocked to read in the newspaper that he was among those who had been shot and killed in an effort to force his wife to return to him. He did not have the needed help to grow as a Christian, but he at least had come to know Christ through his sorrow. So when you see people going through sorrow, it could be that the Lord wants to use **you** to bring them to see their need for the “man of sorrows”, Jesus Christ.

In another instance, we see the sorrow of unbelievers **after death**. Yes, there will be sorrow after death. In the familiar story of Lazarus and the rich man, we read in Luke 16:24, 25 - "And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am **tormented** in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime received thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted, and thou art **tormented**." (2). The word "tormented" is our word - severe pain. Yes, my friend, if we reject God's love in providing His Son to make full payment for our sins, then our sorrow will not end at death. It will only be accelerating at our death because it will involve permanent separation from God.

But there is also the sorrow of **believers**. The first of these is the sorrow over trials - I Peter 1:6 - "In this you have been **distressed** by various trials" (1). These trials take on various forms. One form of trial is physical separation from loved ones. In our example, Paul is on the way to Jerusalem by ship, not expecting to ever be a free man again. They stop at Ephesus and he is privileged to visit with the elders of the church there. These were men with whom he had served for three years, long enough to be close friends. He brings his **final words** to them "and when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And they began to weep aloud and embraced Paul, and repeatedly kissed him, **grieving** especially over the word which he had spoken, that they should see his face no more. And they were accompanying him to the ship." (Acts 20:36-38) (2). I know that if I could see this scene on film, I would be crying. They loved each other so much, but they never expected to see each other again. Such is the trial of physical separation from loved ones.

Another sorrow of believers is that of the anticipated death of a loved one. This can well be one of the greatest trials in life. It is common when a person has a terminal disease. We expect them to die, but we don't know when. Time is short, too short. Paul had expected his friend, Epaphroditus, to die as a result of sickness (from overwork vs. 30) but he didn't (Phil. 2:27) (1). The disciples of Jesus were also deeply grieved when Jesus told them of his approaching death - Matt. 17:23 (1). Just

to think about losing a loved one hurts deeply.

But there is also the death (actually) of the loved one **who is a believer**. We find this example in I Thessalonians 4:13 - "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not **grieve**, as do the rest who have no hope." (1). For the pagans have no hope and therefore have sorrow. For the Christian who has hope in Christ, there is less sorrow. We miss them, but the great loss at death is mollified because of their faith in Christ. Soon after the death of my wife on January 27, 1973, I received this excellent poem, entitled "The Christian's Confidence" (upon a loved one's Home-going) based upon II Corinthians 1:4:

I'll meet her in the glory,
I'll talk with her again.
I'll walk with her in Heaven,
Free from sorrow, care, and pain.
She is not dead! She liveth.
Not here, but over there
Where Jesus liveth also,
Who all her sin did bear.
I cannot bring her back here
However I might try,
But I can plan to meet her
In His presence, by and by.
My robes are washed as hers were
In the precious, crimson flow.
My future's safe, as hers is,
In the Savior's care, I know.
You ask me, "Aren't you grieving?"
No! My heart knows God's own
peace,
For like her, I have a Savior
Whose blessings never cease.
And the blessing that is greatest
Is that death means gain, not loss,
To the soul that's seen the value
Of His death upon the Cross.
And all life takes on new meaning
Which e'en death can never dim,
So with hope and joy abundant,
I walk ever on with Him!

Cornelius Vanderbreggen, Jr.

In addition to sorrow over trials, the believer should experience sorrow over lost souls. Paul expressed this sorrow in Romans 9:1-3:

"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit,

That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.

For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." (2).

Paul cared enough about the salvation of his kinsmen, the Jews, that he was willing to give up his own salvation if they would come to know Christ as Savior. He grieved for them. In like manner, if we can really show people that we care for them, what an impact it can make. Unless we do truly care, how can we expect to win others to Christ?

Not only is there the sorrow of the unbeliever and of the believer, but there is also the sorrow of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives in every believer, and when the believer sins, the Holy Spirit experiences grief, sorrow and distress. Ephesians 4:30 reads:

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God..." (1)

In that same Scripture passage are listed some of the sins that bring sorrow to the Holy Spirit—lying (4:25), stealing (4:28), profanity (4:29), bitterness, wrath, anger, brawling, slander, and malice (4:30), immorality and greed (5:3). When you recall how it feels to grieve, remember that the Holy Spirit grieves also when we sin.

Last of all, consider the sorrow of Jesus as He expressed it in the Garden of Gethsemane: *"My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death."* (Matthew 26:38) (3). Williams translation has it: "My heart is breaking, it almost kills me." As you can see by the (3), it is a very intensive word.

Two main lessons we can learn from this passage: First, Jesus was tested like as we are. When our heart feels like it is about to break, remember that He felt that way also. Hebrews 4:15, 16 says:

"For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin."

Let us, therefore, draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Jesus understands. He can identify with us when our heart is breaking. Therefore, let us hasten to Him when our own hearts are breaking.

Faithful Is He Who Has Promised.

Are you passing through a testing.

Is your pillow wet with tears?

Do you wonder what the reason,

Why it seems God never hears?

Why it is you have no answer

To your oft-repeated plea,

Why the heaven still is leaden

As you wait on bended knee?

Do you wonder as you suffer,

Whether God does understand,
 And if so, why He ignores you,
 Fails to hold you in His hand?
 Do black doubts creep in, assail you,
 Fears without, and fears within,
 Fill your brave heart almost falters
 And gives way to deadly sin?
 All God's testings have a purpose—
 Some day you will see the light.
 All He asks is that you trust Him,
 Walk by faith and not by sight.
 Do not fear when doubts beset you,
 Just remember—He is near;
 He will never, never leave you,
 He will always, always hear.
 Faithful is He who has promised,
 He will never let you fall,
 Daily will the strength be given
 Strength for each and strength for
 all.
 He will gladly share pain with you,
 He will gladly give you peace.
 Fill your tired and weary body
 Finds its blessed, glad release.
 When the darkened veil is lifted,
 Then, dear heart, you'll understand
 Why it is you had to suffer,
 Why you could not feel His hand
 Giving strength when it was needed,
 Giving power and peace within
 Giving joy thru tears and trial,
 Giving victory over sin.

So till then just keep on trusting,
 Thru the sunshine and the rain,
 Thru the tears and thru the heart-
 aches,
 Thru the smiles and thru the pain—
 Knowing that our Father watches,
 Knowing daily strength He'll give,
 Victory for each passing hour,
 This is life, so let us live!
 John E. Zoller

The second lesson we can learn from
 Jesus' sorrow is His attitude toward it
 —submission to the Father's will (Mat-
 thew 26:39). Our attitude should also
 be, "Thy will be done."

In times of trouble, God's trusting
 child may say:

FIRST: He brought me here. It is by
 His will I am in this difficult place: in
 that I will rest.

NEXT: He will keep me here in His
 love and give me grace in this trial to
 behave as His child.

THEN: He will make the testing a
 blessing, teaching me the lessons He in-
 tends for me to learn, and working in
 me the grace He intends to give.

LAST: In His good time He can
 bring me out again — how and when
 He knows.

We can say: I am here
 1. By God's appointment
 2. In His care
 3. Under His training
 4. For His time

Sorrow should bring us to repen-
 tance, to prayer, and to God, whose
 love and understanding sent His Son to
 "bind up the brokenhearted."

A hymn that has become very mean-
 ingful to me is "No One Understands
 Like Jesus," by John W. Peterson.
 The first two stanzas and chorus read
 thus:

No one understands like Jesus, He's
 a friend beyond compare;
 Meet Him at the throne of mercy, He is
 waiting for you there.

No one understands like Jesus When
 the days are dark and grim;

No one is so near, so dear as
 Jesus—Cast your ev'ry care on Him.

No one understands like Jesus, Ev'ry
 woe He sees and feels;

Tenderly He whispers comfort, And
 the broken heart He heals.

Jesus does understand and care and we
 can rest in His precious promises to be
 with us in trouble, and to deliver us.
 Truly His grace IS sufficient.

MISSIONS

For Praise & Prayer

"So we ourselves ought to support such people . . . to be fellow workers with them in the truth." III John 8.

Angola, Africa

Newsletter from Darrell and Barbara
 Hockersmith. (Excerpts of news received in
 letters dated April, May, and June)

Dear Ones All,

It was May, 1977 when we returned
 to Angola the third time, thinking we
 might have perhaps two years to serve
 the Master in this needy land. After
 nearly four years, we still feel the
 urgency of the hour and we pray that
 other workers will come to share the
 Gospel while there is still time. We
 keenly sense the Holy Spirit working in
 our midst as the Word is preached to
 hundreds each Sunday (all churches are
 more than full each Sunday), many
 children attending Sunday school,
 more and more taking advantage of the
 Bible Correspondence courses, people
 literally begging for Christian
 literature, a hunger to study God's
 Word and Christians giving help to
 those less fortunate. Many youth

across the land are asking for prayer as
 pressures increase to turn them from
 following God. Church leaders are ask-
 ing that the Seminary open in Lubango
 in September, 1981.

March 1-8, Darrell and I had the
 privilege of attending A.E.F.'s annual
 Church Conference in Menongue
 where we listened to church leaders
 from four different provinces share
 their challenges and problems amidst
 difficulties which seem insurmount-
 able. Yet congregations are meeting in
 all the areas. Some places it takes five
 days to travel 175 miles due to the guer-
 rilla war; some pastors have received
 no salary since 1976 because there are
 no jobs for people to earn money —
 not even seeds to plant a garden and
 some unable to buy sugar, salt, soap,
 etc., for six months.

Though we experience the lack of
 many things, God continues to meet
 our daily needs. Many little things re-

mind us of the upheaval that surrounds
 us. Darrell continues to visit the
 brethren in other areas as he is able.
 Recently, it was suggested he not pro-
 ceed further as there had been attacks
 on the road he would take to the next
 village. Pray for wisdom and sensitivi-
 ty to know when to go and when to
 stay.

Recently in one of the printing shops
 where an order had been placed (and
 paid for) since 1974, for hymn books,
 they have started to print them once
 again. Darrell has picked up 300 in the
 last two weeks. Praise God! As soon as
 Darrell receives any of these books, he
 sends them on to the other areas of our
 work in order to get them into the
 hands of the people.

Darrell went with Dr. Steve Foster to
 visit Cavango this past weekend. God
 gave them an excellent journey in every
 way. It is just heart-rending to see the
 desperate plight of these people. Lack

of food and clothing is obvious; when any sugar, salt, soap, etc. might arrive, they do not have the money to buy any. Illnesses are rampant and tuberculosis has reached almost epidemic proportions.

(June 10, 1981) Our Menongue colleagues are experiencing what can happen to any of us at any given moment. For nearly a month they have been cut off from the rest of Angola and outside communication, as commercial flights have been cancelled to that little city. A telegram (5 days on the way) reached us today telling us they are alright. Electrical power has been cut to some cities and villages. We praise God that we have electricity and water, enabling us to water our garden which puts vegetables on our table.

If all goes well, we trust to fly from Luanda to Zambia and Zimbabwe on August 19th for a Mission Conference, then on to Portugal, Switzerland, and the U.S. for furlough. Pray for someone to stay in our home while we are on furlough. Pray also that we will be granted exit and re-entry visas.

IMPORTANT! After July 4th, send all mail to us at the following address:

Mr. Darrell Hockersmith
c/o Mr. N. E. Tufford
9315 Elmwood Drive
Munster, Indiana 46321

Sincerely in Christ,
Darrell & Barbara Hockersmith

Guyana

We are happy to announce that Rev. Alwin October has accepted the responsibility of ministering at the Christian Catholic Church, 302 Church Street, Georgetown, Guyana. Rev. October was giving able assistance for a number of months prior to the passing of our Field Supervisor, Rev. Reuben L. Macey. While Overseer Ottersen was in Guyana for the funeral service of Rev. Macey, he spoke to the members of the Georgetown Church and met with the Council of Ministers and was pleased with the good reports of Brother October's ministry and acceptance by the people.

Brother October will be assisted in the Georgetown pastorate by Deacon Charles Griffith. We ask the prayers of our fellowship for Brother October and for the church during these difficult days.

Inscription House Navajo Mission

(Letter from Rev. Bernard Reimer, Mission Superintendent)

Dear Friends,

I feel it is time to give you an update on the events here at Inscription House Navajo Mission and I am enclosing some pictures of the big wedding we had here on April 11th. Elizabeth Tate, daughter of Roy and Susan Tate was married to Danny Chee of Leupp, Arizona. Both are attending the Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. The wedding, the largest in our mission history, was an all-day affair including a complete meal for at least 400 guests. The couple received a pick-up truck load of beautiful gifts to start housekeeping. The decorations, wedding cake, and wedding party all looked outstanding.

Jim Begay, a Senior Navajo evangelist from Pinon, Arizona, had a week of special meetings here on April 13-17. Many attended the services and the response was good.

Our Easter Sunrise Service included a large group of people from Inscription House, Shonto, Kaibeto, and Navajo Mountain Missions (about twelve miles north of here). It was a cold, cloudy morning, but we all got a glimpse of the sunrise just before it began to snow! However, by mid-morning the weather cleared and everything turned out fine. We had two good speakers, lots of special songs, testimonies, a big cook-out for lunch, and a great time of fellowship for everyone.

On May 2nd, we hosted the Western District Navajo Fellowship Meeting which included the noon meal for all. The Fellowship Meeting involves most of the Protestant Churches in the Western District of the Reservation.

On Sunday, May 3rd, Dan Delmar and Kenneth Begay were ordained as deacons. Rev. and Mrs. Barton were here for that ordination service.

Summer will go by fast again and a very busy one it looks to be. Mother's Day, Father's Day, school graduations, 4th-of-July, Camp Meeting, and camping out trips with the different Sunday school classes. All are a lot of work, but we enjoy it. Except for the help of some of the Navajo people and Deb-b, Mrs. Reimer and I would fall by the wayside.

Leroy and Sue Nez have settled in and are helping the rest of us keep things clean, teach Sunday school, and help with the Youth Group.

Roy Tate and Jerry Begay are still alternating the Sunday preaching. Roy seems to be improving in health, but we still ask your prayers for his complete healing.

Our church attendance and offerings have been good this Spring. The help we receive from the headquarters in Michigan City, Phoenix, and other places have kept the bills paid. We also greatly appreciated the new carpet in our living room, purchased and installed by the Phoenix church. It is very nice and the floor has been much warmer than last past winter.

Thanks to all who sent cards and letters. We enjoy hearing from our many friends. Please continue to pray for us all here at Inscription House. God bless you all!

Sincerely,
Bernard Reimer

For Bernard, Edna and Deb-b Reimer
P.O. Box 5
Tonalea, Arizona 86044



The Bride, Elizabeth Tate, being led to the altar by her father, Rev. Roy Tate, to be married to Danny Chee.

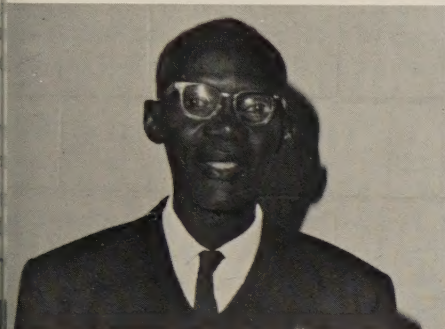
Camp Zion

The Summer camping season is in full swing and each period has a full camp from Primaries (grades 1-3) through Senior Adults. Special gifts to our Camp are enabling us to complete work on our dock which had been severely damaged through ice and heavy seas.

In Tribute

The Christian Catholic Church pays tribute to Rev. Reuben L. Macey for his many years of faithful service as pastor and later as Field Supervisor of our work in Guyana. Born September 1, 1909, Rev. Macey went to be with the Lord on April 28, 1981.

Rev. Macey was baptized in 1938, upon profession of his faith in Jesus Christ, and became a member of the Christian Catholic Church in 1955. He served as pastor first under Elder Jeffries, later under Overseer Gerald



Reuben Levi Macey

Mason. Upon the retirement and return to the United States of Overseer Mason in 1971, Rev. Macey was appointed Field Supervisor and served in this position until his death.

During the funeral service many tributes were paid to him both by other pastors of the Christian Catholic Churches as well as by ministers of other denominational fellowships who were associated with him in the ministry of the Gospel in the Georgetown area of Guyana. Principal message was delivered by General Overseer Roger V. Ottersen, who traveled to Guyana for the funeral service as well as to meet the Council of Ministers.

The Fellowship of the Christian Catholic Church worldwide expresses to Mrs. Hilda Macey their deepest sympathy and love. It is our prayer that God would sustain and strengthen her during these days of transition after her many years of serving together with her husband — and our brother — Rev. Reuben L. Macey.

*'Safe in the arms of Jesus,
safe on His gentle breast.
There by His love o'ershaded,
sweetly my soul shall rest.
Hark! 'tis the voice of angels
born in a song to me,
Over the fields of glory,
Over the Jasper sea.'*

Ordination of James Harrichand To The Gospel Ministry

The Christian Catholic Church is happy to announce that James Harrichand, son of Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Harrichand, was ordained to the Gospel Ministry of Christian Catholic Church on Sunday, June 7, 1981, at the Headquarters Church in Zion, Illinois.

James grew up in the village of Anna Catherina, West Coast Demerara, Guyana, where his father was pastor of the Christian Catholic Churches in that area. Following his graduation from high school he was offered a teaching position in a nearby public elementary school. During the years following as a



Rev. James Harrichand - ordained to the ministry of the Christian Catholic Church on Sunday, June 7, 1981, in Zion, Illinois.

teacher, he drifted far from the Lord and the fellowship of the church (see testimony). We praise God that he came under the convicting power of the Holy Spirit, repented of his waywardness and returned to fellowship. He made a total commitment of his life to the Lord and began to seek ways to be of service to the churches of Anna Catherina, Windsor Forrest and St. Lawrence.

Feeling a call to the ministry, he enrolled at Central Baptist Seminary in Toronto from which he also graduated three years later — this past May — with a double degree in Religious Education (B.R.E.) and Theology (L. Th.)

The Ordination Service was conducted by General Overseer Roger Ottersen with Overseers Earl Minton and Leland Barton assisting. Rev. Samuel Harrichand, who, along with his wife, Esther, and another son, Michael, were present for the ceremony, also took part in the laying on of hands for the Ordination Prayer.

Rev. James Harrichand will be returning to Guyana in August to pastor the churches formerly pastored by his father, as his father is now pastoring the Christian Catholic Church of Don Mills, Toronto, Canada. Pray for this dear brother as he returns to his homeland for ministry.

Testimony of James Harrichand

I was privileged to be born into a Christian home and my father was pastor of the Christian Catholic Churches in West Coast Demerara, Guyana. It was there that I grew up and where I also attended Primary School and High School. There were two things that I never wanted to do after completing high school. I never wanted to teach and I didn't want to be a pastor. Well, it so happened that there was a need for a teacher in a nearby school and the headmaster urged me to take the job. Being that it was close to home, I accepted. This was in September of 1973.

It was while I was a teacher that I got myself involved with some friends. Week after week they would go out on

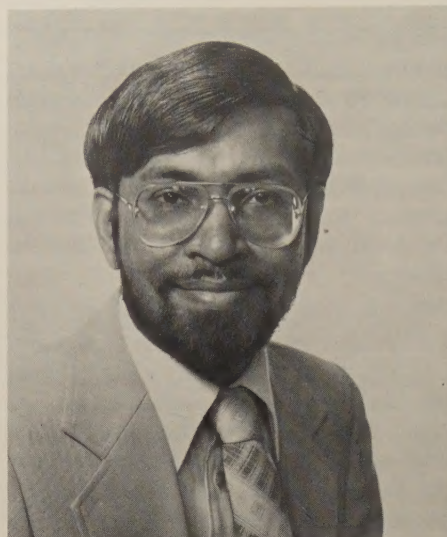
Friday afternoons to a rum shop and drink. I had accepted the Lord sometime during my teens, but in going out with my friends, I began to smoke and drink. At first it was only once or twice a month, but by the end of 1974, I was deeply involved in drinking alcoholic beverages. It came to a point where every evening after school I would start to drink and would continue drinking until mid-night or later—usually later. About two in the morning I would be knocking at the door of our home, and my dear mother would be home, and awake, and would open the door for me.

On Sunday mornings, I would sometimes attend church, but as soon as church was over, I would find

myself in the rum shop drinking again. This went on until 1977. It was then that I decided that at the close of the school year I would be drinking with my friends for the last time. My parents and other members of the family had already migrated to Canada, leaving me with my married sister in Guyana. After drinking with friends, I went to catch a bus for the nine-mile ride home. Some time later I learned that the bus was traveling quite fast, didn't see me at first, and almost hit and killed me, but I was totally unaware of it, for I was drunk.

That night I was very restless and unable to sleep. Very early in the morning I got out of bed and I went to my knees and cried out to the Lord for help. I knew I was running away from Him and I also knew I was breaking the heart of my parents. God heard my cry and delivered me from both smok-

ing and drinking, and I dedicated to Him my all. I got up from my knees and the first thing I did was to tell my



Rev. James Harrichand

Edith Taylor Honored At Mother/Daughter Banquet

April is an exciting month at our church for with it comes our Annual Mother and Daughter Banquet. Each year approximately 435 mothers and daughters gather for an evening of fellowship, a delicious meal, and a special program. The theme this year, "Hear the Bells Ringing," taken from a song which begins, "Hear the bells ringing, they're singing that we can be born again..." was so appropriate as our banquet was held two days after Easter. Praise the Lord that through the resurrection of His Son, we can be born again!

A very special event at the banquet each year is the presentation of the Woman of the Year Award, and Jean

Storey, Assistant Director of Youth, made the award. This year the award went to Edith Taylor, wife of Overseer Jabez Taylor (retired). Over the years she has manifested a true servant attitude and has distinguished herself as a willing worker and capable leader. She has served as Sunday school teacher, Divisional Superintendent, Children's church leader, a member of the Advisory Board of the Womens' Christian Service since its beginning, a leader in the forming of the Guardettes which later joined with the Junior Guard to form the Youth Organization, as leader and worker at Camp Zion, and has served alongside her husband for many years in Zion Passion Play.

Overseer Jabez Taylor was given the honor of presenting a bouquet of flowers to the Woman of the Year recipient, not knowing that he would be presenting them to his own wife, Edith. We all thank Edith from the bottom of our hearts for her spirit of giving.

For the musical portion of the program, we were blessed with two selections from Sonrise, following which, Jana Wacker, a very vivacious and talented Christian vocalist brought us an inspiring evening of music. Lisa Harrison, Jana's "adopted daughter for the evening," joined her in singing two songs. It was indeed a delightful and blessed evening for all who attended.

—K. Snyder



Pictured l. to r.: Jana Wacker, Jean Storey, and Edith Taylor, recipient of the Woman of the Year Award for 1981.

sister that I was through with drinking and smoking. Well, she thought it was a joke for many times I had promised to stop, but this time was different for I knew that I had turned my life completely over to the Lord. I also got in contact with my parents and told them that I had surrendered my life to the Lord, and it was a great joy to them to hear that news.

I then became involved in the work of the Lord in the churches which had been pastored by my father. It was then that the Lord laid upon my heart the burden for the people there and called me into the ministry. I said, "Lord, if you want me in the ministry to serve you here—there is so little that I know about your Word—I want to attend Bible School.

God worked it out for me to attend Central Baptist Seminary in Toronto and I was able to be with my family these past three years, for which I am most grateful. It was a wonderful privilege to be at Central Baptist Seminary and I was able to graduate with a double degree—in Theology and in Christian Education. There have been many enticements to remain in Canada, but God has laid upon my heart my people in Guyana and I look forward to returning in August to take up that ministry. It is a joy to me to know—and a joy for you to know—that you are in the will of God. I shall need the prayers of God's people as I return to serve my people.



In Memoriam

Mrs. Arland (Irene) Cliff (nee La Framboise), March 28, 1981, in Zion.

Mr. Ralph W. Brown, April 5, 1981, in California.

Mrs. Mildred Vincent, April 19, 1981, in Waukegan. (She was 102 years of age.)

Rev. Reuben Levi Macey, April 28, 1981, in Guyana.

Mrs. Ursula Strom, May 6, 1981, in Texas.

Mr. Thomas Parry, Sr., May 20, 1981, in California.

Mr. Elmer Siemon, June 9, 1981, in Zion.